

our country's prosperity, some would have us uproot such valuable members of our society.

Let us not eject Honduran, Haitian, Guatemalan, and Salvadoran nationals, who have, for so long, woven into the American fabric, making American families, paying American taxes, building American homes and businesses, and working for American labor.

Let us not revoke the American promise of freedom, and help deport so many valuable members of our society. Let us vote for passage of this very American legislation, the Latino Immigration Fairness Act.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business Friday, September 29, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,674,178,209,886.86, five trillion, six hundred seventy-four billion, one hundred seventy-eight million, two hundred nine thousand, eight hundred eighty-six dollars and eighty-six cents. One year ago, September 29, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,645,399,000,000, five trillion, six hundred forty-five billion, three hundred ninety-nine million.

Five years ago, September 29, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,973,983,000,000, four trillion, nine hundred seventy-three billion, nine hundred eighty-three million.

Twenty-five years ago, September 29, 1975, the Federal debt stood at \$552,824,000,000, five hundred fifty-two billion, eight hundred twenty-four million which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,121,354,209,886.86, five trillion, one hundred twenty-one billion, three hundred fifty-four million, two hundred nine thousand, eight hundred eighty-six dollars and eighty-six cents during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

NEVADA'S OLYMPIC ATHLETES

• Mr. REID. Mr. President, the 27th Olympiad is now finished, and the United States of America should be very proud of our participants. They showed the world that Americans put their hearts and souls into everything that they do. Part of the reason that I support the Olympic tradition is that these special games are a reflection of the diversity, brotherhood, and spirit that the United States celebrates everyday. I am especially proud of my state and the Olympic participants we sent to Sydney, Australia.

Lori Harrigan, Tasha Schwikert, and Charlene Tagalao were three Nevadan athletes who gave wholly to the U.S. team in their respective sports.

Lori Harrigan, a pitcher for the champion U.S. softball team, helped

her team bring home a second gold medal in as many Olympic Games. Lori has had an amazing softball career for many years now, and since she graduated from UNLV, Lori has won 13 international medals for the United States. Lori will be remembered in Olympic history as the first softball player to pitch a complete no-hitter game, which she accomplished this summer in the opening round game. This summer she lived up to the legacy that she blazed as a UNLV Runnin' Rebel, and her softball accomplishments are properly hallmarked by her retired jersey that UNLV has proudly displayed since 1998.

Las Vegas Tasha Schwikert has been the sweet surprise of the Olympic Games. She was not one of the original members of the U.S. gymnastics team. However, she was later chosen as a second alternate. An unfortunate injury to another gymnast gave Tasha the chance that she deserved for an Olympic appearance. Although Tasha didn't medal, she still showed the world a strong performance. And because of her youth and newly developed international experience, we can expect to see Tasha as a leader in future gymnastic competitions.

The United States women's volleyball team was the underdog of the Olympic indoor volleyball competition, and many did not even expect the team to contend for a medal in Sydney. With the help of Las Vegas, Charlene Tagalao, the women's volleyball team played in the bronze medal math.

Nevada demonstrated its multiculturalism during the Olympic Games, because six other current or former UNLV Runnin' Rebels competed for their native countries. These unique individuals include four swimmers and two track runners. These athletes are as follows: swimmers Mike Mintenko of Canada, Jacint Simon of Hungary, Andrew Livingston of Puerto Rico, Lorena Diaconescu of Romania, and sprinters, Ayanna Hutchinson and Alicia Tyson, of Trinidad and Tobago.

Nevada's contribution to the Olympic Games does not end with the efforts of its athletes.

Karen Dennis is not only the head of the UNLV women's track team, but she was chosen to be the U.S. women's track coach. Her talent and expertise undoubtedly contributed to the multiple medals and stellar performances we saw from the U.S. track team this Olympics.

Las Vegas Jim Lykins was chosen to be one of the two umpires from the United States to referee women's softball. He gleefully did not umpire the championship game, because Olympic rules prevent umpires from working any games played by their home country. Not being able to umpire the championship match was a worthwhile sacrifice for the gold medal that we won in the fast pitch softball competition.

We should all remember the character of the 2000 Olympic Games, both the smile evoking and heartbreaking moments, and continue to support the Nevadan and American athletes who have the integrity, dedication, and ability to represent our nation, now and in the future. Congratulations to all of our Olympic participants.●

HONORING THE KARNES ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

• Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, families are the cornerstone of America. Individuals from strong families contribute greatly to society. I believe it is both instructive and important to honor those who have taken the commitment of "till death us do part" seriously, demonstrating successfully the timeless principles of love, honor, and fidelity. These characteristics make our country strong.

For these important reasons, I rise today to honor Dorothy and Eddie Karnes, who on October 7, 2000, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. My wife, Janet, and I look forward to the day we can celebrate a similar milestone. The Karnes' commitment to the principles and values of their marriage deserves to be saluted and recognized.●

PRIVATE RELIEF BILL FOR FRANCES SCHOCHENMAIER

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, on September 28, 2000, the United States Senate unanimously approved legislation to provide private relief for Frances Schochenmaier of Bonesteel, South Dakota. Frances' case clearly warrants action by the United States Congress to correct an injustice inflicted upon her family over 50 years ago. I am pleased that the Senate has taken this important step by passing the Private Relief Bill for Frances Schochenmaier, which I was proud to have introduced and was cosponsored by my friend and colleague from South Dakota Senator TOM DASCHLE. I will continue to work diligently with Members of the House of Representatives to ensure the legislation is passed before the end of this Congressional session and signed by the President.

Frances' husband, Hermann Schochenmaier, was one of the thousands of young men who valiantly answered his country's call to duty during World War II. While serving in Europe, Hermann was wounded—shot in the arm in what medical personnel referred to as a through-and-through wound. Upon returning home, the Department of Veterans Affairs awarded Hermann a 10 percent disability rating. For 50 years, Hermann received disability compensation for the injury he received during his service in the United States military. Then, in 1995, the Department of Veterans Affairs acknowledged that it was "clearly and